



Department of State

POL 14 VIETS

TELEGRAM

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XR LAB 3-2 VIETS

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ACTION EA 19

INFO SAL 01, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, NSA 02, L 03,
YNR 07, P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 35, SAH 3, IO 21, AID 30, E 19,
SIL 02, LAB 06, NIC 01, RSR 01, 190 W

R 110210Z AUG 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4375
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3748
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2126
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD
SUBJECT: CVT AND ELECTIONS

REF: OUR A-66, JULY 28, 1967

1. TRAN QUOC BUU, PRESIDENT OF VIETNAMESE CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (CVT), TOLD LABOR ATTACHE AUGUST 9 THAT THE CVT WILL GIVE ITS SUPPORT TO THE THIEU-KY TICKET. IN BUU'S VIEW, THERE ARE ONLY TWO OTHER TICKETS THAT COUNT--HUONG-TRUYEN AND SUU-DAN. HE SAID THAT THE CVT WOULD PREFER HUONG, BECAUSE

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HUONG, MORE THAN THE OTHERS, AND ESPECIALLY MORE THAN THIEU-KY, WOULD PUSH THE SOCIAL POLICIES THAT THE CVT THINKS THE COUNTRY NEEDS.

2. HOWEVER, THE CVT MUST BE REALISTIC, BUU ADDED. DESPITE THEIR ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY, THE MILITARY AT THIS TIME

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REVIEWED BY <u>John J. Zent</u>	DATE <u>10/6/81</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE	
TS AUTH. _____	REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒	
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WOULD NOT PERMIT A CIVILIAN TICKET TO WIN, IN BUU'S JUDGMENT. HE FEELS THAT IT WOULD NOT BE IN THE CVT'S INTEREST TO PUT ITS FUTURE ON THE LINE TO CAMPAIGN FOR A TICKET THAT PROBABLY WOULD NEVER TAKE OFFICE EVEN IF IT WINS.

3. A CVT NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING ON AUGUST 5 TOOK NO FORMAL POSITION ON THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE, BUT LEFT THE DECISION IN BUU'S HANDS, SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION BY ANOTHER NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING LATER THIS MONTH. HOWEVER, BUU HAD A ONE-HOUR MEETING WITH KY ON AUGUST 7, AND LUNCH WITH A THIEU AIDE THE DAY BEFORE, AND THE DISCUSSION WITH BOTH WENT WELL ENOUGH THAT NOW HE WILL TRY TO LINE UP THE CVT TO VOTE FOR THIEU AND KY. JUST HOW THE CVT WILL DO THIS IS NOT YET SURE. CVT UNITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAVE ALREADY COOPERATED WITH THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS IN SETTING UP DOCK WORKERS, PEDICAB DRIVERS, AND LAMBRETTA DRIVERS, MEETINGS

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WHERE KY WAS THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER.

4. ACCORDING TO BUU, AT THE AUGUST 5 NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING THERE WAS STRONG SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF THE CVT'S LAUNCHING A GENERAL STRIKE TO PROTEST AGAINST THE REJECTION OF THE CVT'S SENATORIAL LIST (REFAIR). BUU CLAIMS CREDIT FOR CALMING THE GROUP DOWN BY ARGUING THAT NO USEFUL PURPOSE, EITHER FOR THE CVT OR THE NATION, WOULD BE SERVED BY SUCH A STRIKE. SEVERAL CVT LEADERS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE CVT HAD ERRED IN NEGLECTING TO PRESENT ALTERNATES, SO THAT WITH THE DISQUALIFICATION OF A SINGLE CANDIDATE, TO THANH TUYEN, THE WHOLE LIST FELL. RESENTMENT ABOUT THE LIST'S REJECTION LINGERS, BUT THE ADVOCATES OF PROTEST ACTION, PRINCIPALLY SAIGON COUNCIL PRESIDENT TUYEN, HAVE LOST THEIR CASE.

5. T D NATIONAL COUNCIL
MEETING FURTHER AUTHORIZED CVT
LEADERS TO RUN AS DEPUTIES IN THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTION;
THOSE WISHING TO RUN UNDER THE CVT LABEL WILL HAVE TO
GET FORMAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE CVT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. BUU
SAID THAT PROBABLY ONLY A FEW LOCAL LEADERS WILL BE INTERESTED

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IN RUNNING AS DEPTIES, BUT OTHER GOVT OFFICIALS DISAGREE WITH
HIM. BUNKER

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